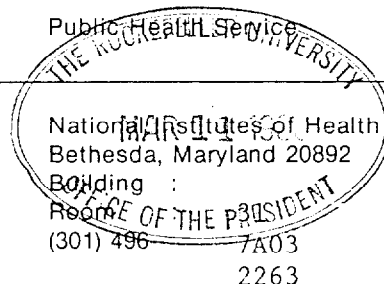




DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



March 7, 1988

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
The Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York, NY 10021-6399

Dear Joshua:

Thank you very much for your letter of February 17 concerning my article in Science and your thoughts regarding HIV. I enjoyed very much the transcript from the presentation that you made in Paris on January 20. I would be delighted to discuss the areas that you covered in that presentation with you. It would probably be better if we could discuss it at a time that we can sit down and bounce back and forth these ideas. I do not think that this is something that we could cover in a letter. However, I would like to address some of the points which you made in your letter to me. We have been intensively investigating the nature of signals which can induce virus production from a latent or chronically infected cell. You asked the question concerning x-ray or cytotoxic drugs. We have a chronically or latently infected cell line which can be induced by low levels of irradiation similar to the induction by IUDR. We have not looked at the effect of cytotoxic drugs in vitro on these cell lines. However, we have shown that pharmacologic concentrations of corticosteroid can induce the expression of virus in chronically or latently infected cells. I am not sure if these findings have any relevance physiologically or clinically. However, it is very clear that a variety of activation or other types of stimuli can induce the expression of HIV. Under certain circumstances even ultraviolet light can induce the expression of virus in latently infected cells. We are continuing to pursue the mechanisms of induction of virus expression at the molecular level. I will keep you informed as to any new or interesting observations that we make in this regard.

I appreciate your comment about Peggy Hamburg. She is working out wonderfully here and I am certainly pleased to have her with me. I hope to see you sometime soon to discuss these matters. Thank you for your interest in our work. Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Tony

Anthony S. Fauci, M.D.
Director
National Institute of Allergy
and Infectious Diseases

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